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MAD

APRIL 2006 NUMBER 464

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This Channukah, my grandparents sent me *The MAD Bathroom Companion: The Mother Load*. I immediately started to read it ignoring the fact that we were having dinner. My mom told me to "put away that silly thing" so we could have a nice family dinner together. Whatever. I think it should be put out there that MAD is a necessary piece of entertainment in any stable society and should never be referred to as "silly."

Sam Berkelhammer, Louisville, CO

Berzerker — We're a little freaked out by your story. *The MAD Bathroom Companion* was meant to be enjoyed while on the toilet. Which made us wonder what else you were doing at the dinner table while reading it! You follow? If that's the case, then your mother was *under*reacting! —Ed.

INKING OF YOU

Hey, in memory of my father, I had this done. Is this worth a three-year subscription?

Wayne Rogers, Tempe, AZ

Roger Dodger — Thanks for sharing your touching tribute to your father. But it sounds like you got off easy. When Grandma died, we too got a tattoo of one of her favorite characters! —Ed.

Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™

I have been reading MAD for about three years now and I've always wanted to make a dumb wish to the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*. My dad got me a Nintendo DS for my birthday, but he didn't get me a game for it. He said if I want the game, I will have to save up my allowance, but I always blow it on MAD and Bazooka bubble gum. My DS is my only source of entertainment, and I'll have to save up for 2½ months till I get it. That's why my dumb wish is for a free lifetime subscription to MAD and maybe some Bazooka gum, but I mostly want the subscription.

Anthony Montevaldo, San Jose, CA

The Full Montevaldo — We're not much for math here at the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™*, but we asked long-time writer Jeff "The Human Abacus" Kruse to crunch some numbers on your money woes before we considered granting your dumb wish. You said it would take you 2½ months to save the $35.00 for a Nintendo DS game, which means that you get about $14.00 a month in allowance. If all you are buying is MAD and Bazooka, that means that after you spend the $4.00 on MAD, you're spending $10 just on gum. A piece of Bazooka costs 5 cents, which means you chew *200 pieces* of gum every month! Because we printed your letter, you'll get MAD free for one year — which, at the rate you're consuming gum, may just be a lifetime subscription! Thanks for writing the *Make A Dumb Wish Foundation™* and we'll see you in the dentist's chair! —Ed.

A DEAR JOHN LETTER

I work in a non-retail optical lab. Our men's room has a vast collection of updated reading material. MAD seems to be always on top. Everyone knows I'm the person always restocking the collection. Everyone loves MAD. It's always new and up to date. Everyone loved the "MAD" 20 issue.

Tim Wright, Spokane, WA

Wright or Wrong — What are you guys doing in the bathroom that you need a "vast collection of updated reading material"? We're guessing not a lot of work gets done there. Do you just punch in and go straight to the crapper? Did you write this letter from there? Oh God, you're probably reading this letter from there right now! If you'll excuse us, we need to go and take a boiling hot shower now! —Ed.

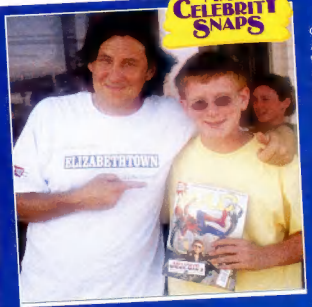
YOU'VE GOT JAIL

At age 10, I wasn't much of a reader, but my probation officer used to sneak your magazine in to me and whenever possible I still read you faithfully. I am now 52 years old and have spent close to 29 out of the last 35 years in jails and prisons. No, I'm not a murderer, bank robber or kidnapper — just a really stupid criminal. I do a lot of reading though, so would you please send me a free copy of your current issue, as I'll be here for a while now.

Daniel Gaines, Spokane, WA

Oh Danny Boy — It's funny you should write. In a recent reader poll, it was revealed that 60% of our readership was either in jail or awaiting incarceration. We're glad that your love for our magazine goes nearly as far back as your love for breaking the law. Thanks for writing and see you at the parole hearing! —Ed.

MAD CELEBRITY SNAPS



I snagged this photo with director Cameron Crowe on the set of *Elizabethtown*. I told him, being the typical teenager, sometimes I don't always have enough cash to buy MAD as soon as it hits the newsstand. He agreed that winning a three-year subscription sounded very resourceful!

Josh Barnett, Campbellsburg, KY

Josh Pit — As far we're concerned, everybody in your town deserves some kind of gift for having that movie filmed there, so we're happy to send you a subscription. We just have one question, though. You're a 13-year-old boy, why are you chasing around middle-aged directors instead of trying to cozy up to that luscious Kirsten Dunst? Thanks for the snap! —Ed.

DON'T MISS ISSUE #3 — ON SALE APRIL 18TH!

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ALFRED SIGHTINGS

They say that "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery," so in the case of this billboard, maybe you should be flattered? But did Roman Equipment really think that a mustache alone could actually disguise that famous face? For your own peace of mind, the billboard is no longer up!

Brian Chalmers, Cleveland, OH

Prince Chalmers — That's all well and good, but we won't have peace of mind until we get that image of Alfred with the '70s pornstar 'stache out of our heads! —Ed.

MAD IN THE MEDIA

Recently, MAD pulled off a hat trick of media exposure when we got a half-page picture in the *New York Post*, an above-the-fold write-up in the *Wall Street Journal* and — most prestigiously — the cover of *Modeler's Resource*! Take *that*, Brangelina!

The Big Easel

It would brighten my dull little Idahoan life to have pictures of the vases I painted (more like wasted three hours on) printed in your crappy piece of crap you call a magazine, er, I mean, your glorious finely-made publication!

Karen Lilly, Boise, ID

Lilly Pad — We were going to argue with your assessment of our magazine, but judging by your art, we now realize you're something of an authority when it comes to crop. Three hours? Does that include the time it took to make the shelf? See ya at the kiln! —Ed.

READER ALERT

Everyone that had their letters printed on this month's Letters Page will receive arguably the greatest videogame ever produced in the history of videogames — *Spy Vs. Spy* for Xbox, courtesy of our "friends" at Take2 Games. For those unlucky readers who didn't manage to win a copy of the game, take heart, it's on sale now!

READER ALERT II

If you feel you've gotten as good as you possibly can at air guitar and are ready to take that all-important next step, have we got a contest for you! The winner receives an Epiphone SG™ special electric player pack which includes an amplifier, tuner, instructional DVD and more — courtesy of our friends at Gibson. To enter, print your name, complete address and e-mail address on a 3x5 card. Mail it to: MAD's Gibson Guitar Sweepstakes, c/o MAD Magazine, 1700 Broadway, Room 311, New York, NY 10019. Only one entry per person. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. See official rules at www.madmag.com!

MADMUMBLINGS @ MADMAG.COM

If you make a bread sandwich, does it take two or three slices of bread? — Dwarfzilla...I can swallow whole lava lamps, but only the pink ones! — Merrick Cohen.

MAD'S 2-QUESTION INTERVIEW

We're delighted to continue our proud tradition of the MAD 2-Question Interview! This issue's victim is Doug Savant, who plays Tom Scavo on *Desperate Housewives*!

QUESTION ONE: Do you have a moment for two questions from MAD Magazine?

DOUG: Wow, MAD! Seriously? I love MAD!

QUESTION TWO: Great! Ready for question two?

DOUG: Oh yeah! Absolutely!

Thank you for taking part in MAD's 2-question interview!

Guarantee: MAD's 2-Question Interviews are genuine and presented verbatim!

Interview conducted by Vic Arkoff

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OUR SPOOFS OF PRISON BREAK AND BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN!

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Contributing Artists And Writers
the usual gang of idiots

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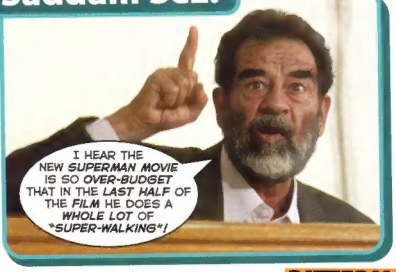

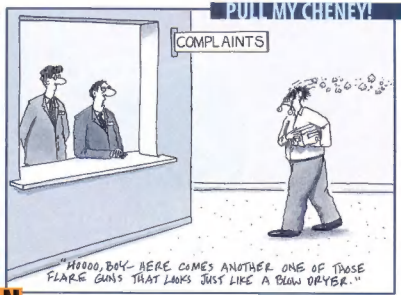

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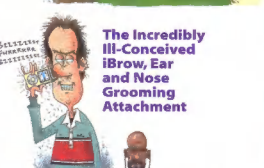
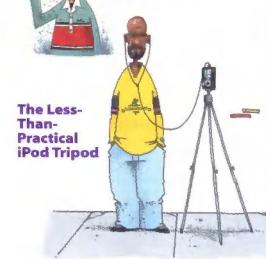




BITTERMAN

Joe, I worry about you. It's been ages since you've been on a date. Why don't you get out there and meet someone?
Hey, I've still got it — and, believe me, the ladies notice. As a matter of fact, just yesterday three different women asked me for my number!
What's your Social Security number, sir?
DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Account number, please?
BANK
Ok, I just need your insurance ID number and we're all set.

PAGES

5 DISTURBING SIGNS THAT YOUR PARENTS DON'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE

When you run home crying after getting your ass kicked by a bully, your father doesn't respond quite as vengefully as you'd hoped.

After your annoying little sister calls you "dumb nuts," your mom's reprimand seems a little bit weak.

You're beginning to suspect that dad's been playing catch with someone else behind your back.

Last Thanksgiving, your mom made you sit at the "kids' table" — even though you were the only kid there.

Your mom caught you smoking, and all she berated you about was your poor choice of brand.

NEW IN BOOKSTORES!

Marvel Comics finds yet another way to suck money out of the comic-loving public with this blatant rip-off of the classic children's book, *Flat Stanley*. When the octogenarian Spider-Man creator is crushed by an artist's drafting table, he's left only a half-inch thick! This disturbing book follows Flat Stan Lee's adventures as he goes for a ride in John Romita Jr.'s portfolio, gets mixed in with the pages of next month's *X-men* and contemplates suicide as he's haphazardly kicked around the San Diego ComicCon.

If you're a keen teen lookin' for awesome advice, then just...

Ask Lynne Cheney

...wife of our beloved Vice President. For candid counseling on sensitive subjects, Mrs. Cheney always has your best interests at heart.

Dear Mrs. 2nd Lady:

My Dad was laid off from his job three months ago and he hangs around the house all of the time now. He keeps yelling at me for no reason and blames me for everything that goes wrong. He makes me feel so terrible, I swear, I could kill myself. Nothing I do is good enough. Please, is there something I can say to him to make him see I'm not the problem?

—Very Upset

Dear V.U.:

It sounds like your Dad is going through a tough time, but he'll get over it. I'm more concerned about how you're doing. Are you really, really serious about killing yourself? I ask because the other night, Dick was saying how great the war was going, but then wondered aloud just how much better it would go if WE had OUR OWN suicide bombers. So, if you are really serious about this suicide business, you could make yourself some really good money (at least for a while) as you learn all about modern explosive techniques. Plus you could teach your sourpuss Pa a lesson about blaming you for everything that he won't soon forget. Wouldn't that be "awesome"?! What do you say?

Remember! If you're an angst-ridden adolescent with a prickly problem, don't hesitate to ASK LYNNE CHENEY.

MELVIN & JENKINS' GUIDE TO PERSONAL HEALTH

Jenkins carefully arranges the contents of his medicine cabinet, organized by how soon each product is due to expire.

Melvin, after the third time sealing his eyelids shut, seriously considers not keeping his Visine squeezer right next to his Krazy Glue.

WHAT'S ON OSAMA BIN LADEN'S BOOKSHELF?

People You'll Blow Up n the Way to Heaven
Harry Potter and the Plot to Kill the American Infidels
The Sensuous Goat
Tora Bora on $5 a Day
The One Minute Jihadist
The Koran (Extra Large Type Edition)
Tuesdays with Zarqawi
Fatwas for Dummies
The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Terrorists

FORMS OF TORTURE STILL ALLOWED UNDER THE GENEVA CONVENTION

Listening to an endless loop of the pitch for *Legally Blonde 3*

The static-electric chair

Forced small talk with a nun

Good Cop/ Just Disappointed Cop

Cat-nap deprivation

The Scarlet Letter as told by Paris Hilton

So, there was, like, this chick, okay? Her name's Hester Prynne, whatever kind of name that is. Can you imagine if the name "Hester Prynne" popped up on my cell phone? I'd be all like, "Eww, gross!"

Anyway, this Hester was married to this rich doctor who had access to like, tons of good drugs. It's not like she was born some rich hotel heiress, so if she hadn't married him she probably would have had to WORK for a living. So NOT hot. And the doctor is all old, he's like...thirty or something. I know, right? So anyway, they move to Boston but they take separate private ships and his, like, doesn't show up. He probably took his boat to St. Bart's, which is such an awesome place!

The thing is, even though he's been gone for a while, Hester gets pregnant. She totally cheated on his old, skanky ass! So hot. But, like, back then, they didn't have camcorders, so, ya know, no one can figure out who spent "One Night in Hester." And they are totally angry about it. So they make her wear this big scarlet "A" on her chest, everywhere she goes, which is like, the worst thing you can do to anyone — make them wear the same thing more then once. I would just die.

And Hester has this baby, it's name is like Pearl or Oyster or Apple or something totally unique but not nearly as cool as, like, a city (she wishes she had a cool name like a city). And Pearl is totally obsessed with the red "A," which is sort of like how my chihuahua Tinkerbell is obsessed with the LV logo on all my Louis Vuitton stuff.

So then there's this Reverend Dimmesdale, who's like, totally weak and not my type, but he's acting all nice to Hester, and then it becomes sort of clear that he's the guy she cheated with! I can't believe how awesome this girl is, I mean, even I've never slept with a reverend! But he's totally getting off scot-free and not even having to go to court over the fact that he's sold Hester out and let her be punished.

So, there's this doctor taking care of Dimmy, and it turns out he's not just any doctor, he's totally Hester's long-lost husband! But now his name is Chillingworth, which is funny, 'cause he really needs to chill! So he examines Dimmesdale and on his chest there's a big Scarlet "A." I would have thought that he had gotten drunk and gone cow-tipping and accidentally got branded, but apparently he did it to himself and so now Chillingworth knows about him and Hester and is like, totally pissed.

But, like, before Chillingworth can do anything, Dimmesdale totally confesses and then, get this, he drops dead. And then a little while later, Chillingworth dies too, and leaves all his money to Pearl! If only everyone who did something bad to you would drop dead and leave you money. Like that jerk who hacked my cell phone. Or who stole Tinkerbell. Or who put that video up on the Internet. They should all die and I should get all the profits. For me, that would be a totally hot ending.

FRIENDS OF FUNDALINI

John Caldwell, Tom Cheney, Desmond Devlin, Megan Ganz, Garth Gerhart, Arie Kaplan, Jacob Lambert, Brian McConnachie, Kevin Pope, Sam Sisco, Bob Staake, Jack Syracuse, Rick Tulka

THE TALE OF THE APE DEPT.

KING

After directing *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, Peter Jackson has kept his streak alive with *King Kong*! He took *another* classic story and turned it into a bloated, boring, endless movie! Sure, it was a timeless film that didn't need remaking — but leave it to Petey to go ahead anyway and give us...

Cad Denim, director, at your service! Everything's in place! I have a **screenwriter** who's barely written a **word** of the **script!** I have an **unknown vaudeville star** I just found roaming the streets **unemployed!** I have a **studio** that's trying to have me hauled off to **jail** for **embezzlement!** And I've been passing **bad checks** to everyone I meet! All in all, I'd say I've **never** been in **better shape! God**, I **love showbiz!**

As **Pressing**, Cad's **cameraman**, it's **my** job to get **everything** he wants on **film!** And when I say "**everything**" I mean he wants **nothing** edited out! We call it the "**Peter Jackson**" **approach** to filming! If you make the **audience** sit through it **all**, sooner or later they're bound to see ***something*** they like!

I **knew** I never should have taken a job writing for a **low-rent director** like **Cad!** The **creep!** I want it known that I **don't** spend my entire time writing **crap** like **this** for the **screen!** I'm **much** more **professional** than that! I prefer writing **crap** like **this** for the **Broadway stage!** Why didn't I **listen** to my **mother** and stick with playing the **piano!** I bet I could have won an **Academy Award!**

I know I'm going to **love** working with **Cad Denim!** Right off the bat he told me I **don't** belong on the **stage**, but in the **movies!** He said my **one-dimensional personality** is perfect for the **flat screen!** I mean, if **that** isn't **supportive**, what is?...**Holy cow!** They told me my **leading man** would be **tall** and **dark**, but my **God**... I better insist on wearing my **heels!**

I'm the **star** in this **epic!** I know I'm truly **handsome**, but let me set the record **straight!** I'm **more** than a **pretty face!** I've also got a **great body!** Even though I'm a lot **prettier** than **Gam Sorrow**, the **best thing** I've got in my **favor** is that I'm **not** your typical **giant ape's** type — unless, of course, besides **coming out** from behind the **giant wall**, the ape **also** plans on **coming out** of the **closet!**

I'm the **youngest deckhand** on board and this is my **first voyage!** I'm **learning** so **much** from **Captain Foghorn!** For instance, I always thought a **ship** used the **anchor** to hold it in place! **Now** I see you just run it up on a pile of **rocks** when you want it to **stop! Who knew?**

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO ARTIST: HERMANN MEJIA

KORN!

I wonder if **this** could be **Skill Island?** I wish they would have marked this **secret map** with a "**you are here**" **arrow!** I'm a **Captain** of a **ship**, not a **mind reader!** I owe it to my **crew** never to put them in **harm's way**, but I don't see anything around here that looks **risky** — deserted **huts**, **human remains** scattered all over, a **giant wall** obviously built to contain some **mammoth beast** — just a typical **Pacific Island paradise!**

Finally another **camera crew** coming to this **uncharted island!** It's about time! **Jobs** for me are **few** and **far** between — the **original** in **1933**, the crappy **remake** in **1976**, and now **this one**, which looks like it may **outcrap** that last one! I just hope no one realizes my **Screen Actors Guild card** has **expired!**

Ego: The Empire State Building Magical Tan Crystals for 3 months

I'm the **senior deckhand** of this **rust bucket!** As **old** as it is, it's pretty darn **safe!** That's why we only have **one life preserver**, **one life boat** and **one life jacket!** It gives people **confidence** to know **we're confident** we'll never **use** that stuff! Besides, it gives us more **cargo space** for our **gallons** and **gallons** of **chloroform!** Why we need so **much** of it is beyond me! This **screenplay alone** is enough to put **everyone** to **sleep** — including a **25-foot ape!**

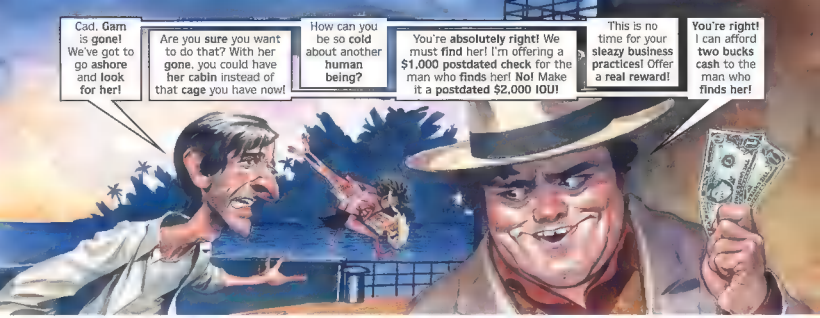
Okay, **Survivors**, in this **immunity Challenge** both tribes will engage in a **tug of war** barefoot on **jagged rocks** and **broken glass!** The **winners** will receive **immunity**; the **losers** will be eaten by **dinosaurs!** So as you can see, there is **more** at **stake** here than **usual!**

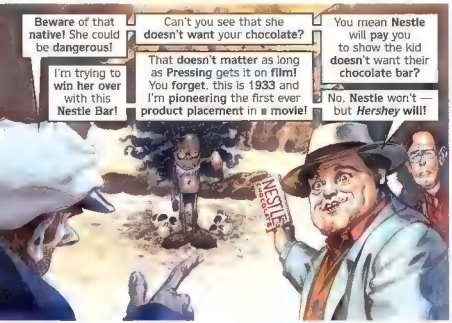
Go around to the **back** of the **island**, please! **This** part of the **island** is reserved for **Korn**, his **guests** and **crew! That** area is reserved for **Jeff Probst** and the **CBS** *Survivor* **Party**...

I **like** the **beach**, but it's getting too **noisy!**

And **property values** are going through the **roof!** I think we should buy **land** further in the **jungle** before **Disney** discovers the place and we can't **afford anything!**

Geez, we were the **first ones here**, and **now** look at the place!


Cad. Garn is gone! We've got to go ashore and look for her!
Are you sure you want to do that? With her gone, you could have her cabin instead of that cage you have now!
How can you be so cold about another human being?
You're absolutely right! We must find her! I'm offering a $1,000 postdated check for the man who finds her! No! Make it a postdated $2,000 IOU!
This is no time for your sleazy business practices! Offer a real reward!
You're right! I can afford two bucks cash to the man who finds her!


Beware of that native! She could be dangerous!
I'm trying to win her over with this Nestle Bar!
Can't you see that she doesn't want your chocolate?
That doesn't matter as long as Pressing gets it on film! You forget, this is 1933 and I'm pioneering the first ever product placement in a movie!
You mean Nestle will pay you to show the kid doesn't want their chocolate bar?
No, Nestle won't — but Hershey will!
NESTLE CHOCOLATE

Something doesn't make sense here! How come these natives are so advanced they can build huge platforms with retracting floors and a cantilevered arm over 100 feet tall, yet they still think they need to sacrifice a pretty girl to a big gorilla in the moonlight?
Easy! There's plenty to do on this island in the daytime with the beach and stampedes and stuff! They need some form of entertainment at night to bring in the crowds!

For uncivilized savages, they seem friendly!
I have a spear in my chest! You call that friendly?
Why must you guys always be so negative? It was probably offered to you as a gift! You gotta remember their culture has different customs than we do!

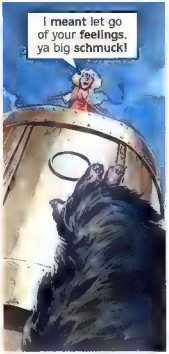
It's Korn! He's going to take Garn!
Stop him! He can't take her!
I'm glad to see you're thinking of someone other than yourself for once!
Of course I'm not thinking of myself! I'm thinking of my movie! Korn can't take her because the moon is behind a cloud! The lighting is all wrong! Korn sweetheart, don't pick her up until I say "action"!

Maybe I can mollify this big dumb ape by doing some of my old vaudeville act... Puttin' on the ritz...
Hmm. it's not working! Maybe a strip tease might do it...
Bingo! All male animals are the same!
Now it's pre-historic monsters! What's next in this place?
I'm begin-ning to think this isn't Shill Island after all...
Ya think we stumbled on the other secret island movie location by mistake?
I'm praying that these beasts trample the camera! I just realized I left the film back on the ship and I'm gonna be in bigger trouble than this when Cad finds out!
That was amazing, Skinny! You shot all those giant spiders off me with a machine gun and yet you never hit me with a single bullet!
He didn't hit you with a single bullet, but at least three members of my crew are dead thanks to his "marks-manship"! Of course that does rein in my payroll quite a bit, so there is a bright side!
We caught Korn! Get the chloroform and put him to sleep!
When we get to New York I can see the theatre marquee now! Korn, the 8th Wonder of the World!
No, I think it's going to be more like: Korn, 9th wonder of the world. The 8th wonder of the World is going to be how the hell we got a 25-foot ape up onto our tiny little ship and then sailed it all the way back to America!
Hmmm...I got an idea!
Drop another bottle of chloroform in his nose and steer 14 degrees to starboard!
Am I a genius or what?!
Not from where I'm sitting!
There's nothing to fear, ladies and gentlemen! Those chains are made of high strength steel!
Actually, those chains are made of low grade aluminum! We had to cut corners somewhere! I mean, publicity or not, putting Korn up at the Waldorf so he could watch the sunset was ridiculous!
I see Korn made it! I guess my big break as his under-study isn't tonight!

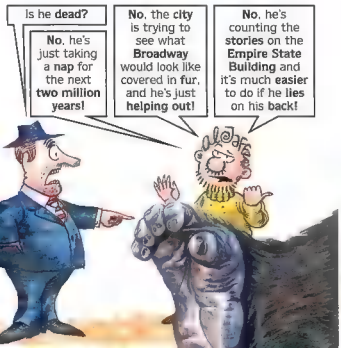
Korn broke free! He's loose somewhere in the city!
Could you describe the perpetrator? Height? Any distinguishing marks?
He's big, tall, hairy and probably destroying the city looking for a 20-foot banana to eat!
Got it! I'll put all fruit stands on notice to be on the lookout for suspicious characters!

Hey, fellah! You can't go up there! There's an 800,000-pound gorilla on top of this building!
The woman I love is up there with that big ape!
Aww... okay, you can go up! Take the elevator with this guy!
What's the deal with the Empire State Building being a magnet for guys in romance movies?
SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE

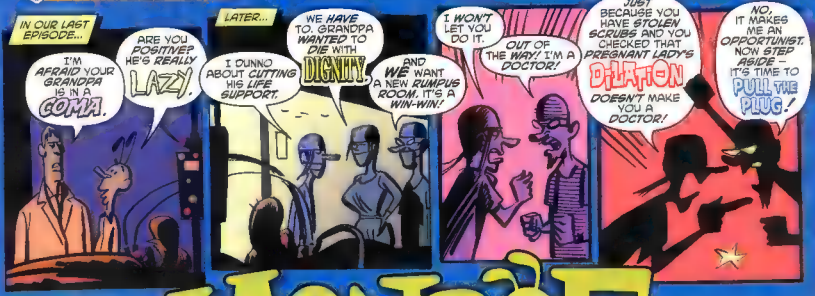
God, can't an ape and a pretty girl get any privacy in this city? Even up here those stupid airplanes are spying on us!
Korn, I feel so close to you! it's almost like we were married! Actually, there's been no sex, so it really is like a marriage! But our love just wasn't meant to be. Korn! You're just gonna have to let go...


I meant let go of your feelings, ya big schmuck!

The airplanes got Korn!
It wasn't the airplanes! It was beauty that killed the beast!
That may be, but I still think 2,000 rounds of ammunition in his chest and a 102-story free fall helped do him in just a little!


Is he dead?
No, he's just taking a nap for the next two million years!
No, the city is trying to see what Broadway would look like covered in fur, and he's just helping out!
No, he's counting the stories on the Empire State Building and it's much easier to do if he lies on his back!

Korn is dead, my film is ruined and I'm bankrupt!
Work for me — I'm rolling in dough!
How could a writer make any money?
Screw the writing! You brought a big gorilla. Everyone's seen gorilla. I brought back a Brontosaurus! No one's ever seen one of those! I call it the 10th Wonder of the World! My show is sold out for the next five years!
The 11th Wonder why anyone would attempt yet another remake of a classic film! Ah, I think I'll go take my new ship, the Poseidon, out for a nice, peaceful voyage!
POSEIDON


IN OUR LAST EPISODE...
I'M AFRAID YOUR GRANDPA IS IN A COMA.
ARE YOU POSITIVE HE'S REALLY LAZY.
LATER...
I DUNNO ABOUT CUTTING HIS LIFE SUPPORT.
WE HAVE TO, GRANDPA WANTED TO DIE WITH DIGNITY.
AND WE WANT A NEW RUMPUS ROOM. IT'S A WIN-WIN!
I WON'T LET YOU DO IT.
OUT OF THE WAY! I'M A DOCTOR!
JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE STOLEN SCRUBS AND YOU CHECKED THAT PREGNANT LADY'S DILATION DOESN'T MAKE YOU A DOCTOR!
NO, IT MAKES ME AN OPPORTUNIST. NOW STEP ASIDE - IT'S TIME TO PULL THE PLUG!

And now the THRILLING conclusion of...

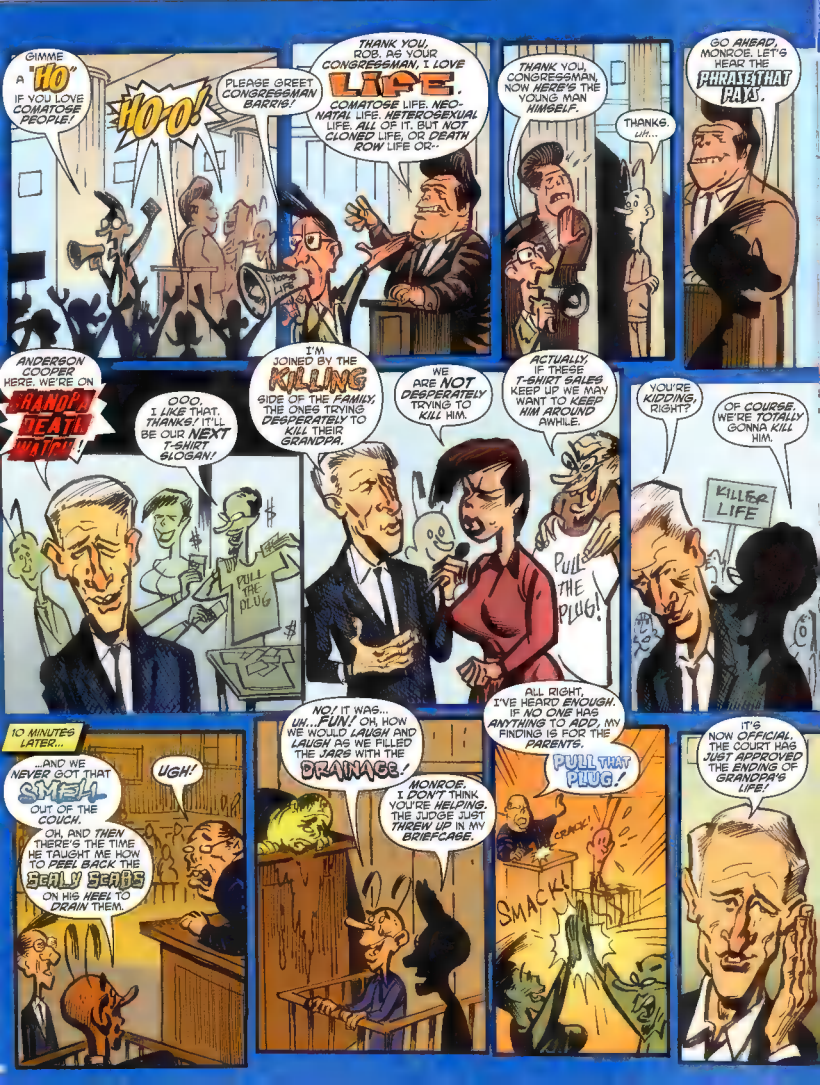
MONROE and...

THE RIGHT TO DIE

PART TWO

STOP RIGHT THERE!
WHAT? I WAS CHECKING THE CORDS.
YEAH, RIGHT. I'M ROB MILLS FROM THE WFGPTLC.
COME AGAIN?
THE WE FORCE COMATOSE PEOPLE TO LIVE COALITION.
CATCHY NAME.
MAN, I'M SO GLAD YOU SHOWED UP! THEY WERE GONNA KILL GRAMPS!
YOU CALLED THEM?
DUH.
YOU TWO CAN'T MAKE US KEEP HIM ALIVE!
WE CAN MAKE YOU AND WE WILL.
THIS IS AN INJUNCTION FROM THE STATE SUPREME COURT. THIS STATE TROOPER WILL BE GUARDING THE PLUG!
SEE YOU IN COURT.
SIT TIGHT, OLD TIMER. WE'LL BE BACK TO KILL YOU LATER.
REAL TOUCHING, DAD.

WRITER: ANTHONY BARBIERI
ARTIST: BILL WRAY


GIMME A "HO" IF YOU LOVE COMATOSE PEOPLE!
HO-O!
PLEASE GREET CONGRESSMAN BARRIS!
THANK YOU, ROB, AS YOUR CONGRESSMAN, I LOVE LIFE. COMATOSE LIFE. NEO-NATAL LIFE. HETEROSEXUAL LIFE. ALL OF IT. BUT NOT CLONED LIFE, OR DEATH ROW LIFE OR--
THANK YOU, CONGRESSMAN, NOW HERE'S THE YOUNG MAN HIMSELF.
THANKS. uh...
GO AHEAD, MONROE. LET'S HEAR THE PHRASE THAT PAYS.
ANDERSON COOPER HERE. WE'RE ON GRANDPA DEATH WATCH!
OOO, I LIKE THAT. THANKS! I'LL BE OUR NEXT T-SHIRT SLOGAN!
PULL THE PLUG!
I'M JOINED BY THE KILLING SIDE OF THE FAMILY, THE ONES TRYING DESPERATELY TO KILL THEIR GRANDPA.
WE ARE NOT DESPERATELY TRYING TO KILL HIM.
ACTUALLY, IF THESE T-SHIRT SALES KEEP UP WE MAY WANT TO KEEP HIM AROUND AWHILE.
PULL THE PLUG!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
OF COURSE. WE'RE TOTALLY GONNA KILL HIM.
KILLER LIFE
10 MINUTES LATER...
...AND WE NEVER GOT THAT SMELL OUT OF THE COUCH.
UGH!
OH, AND THEN THERE'S THE TIME HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO PEEL BACK THE SCALY SCABS ON HIS HEEL TO DRAIN THEM.
NO! IT WAS... UH...FUN! OH, HOW WE WOULD LAUGH AND LAUGH AS WE FILLED THE JARS WITH THE DRAINAGE!
MONROE, I DON'T THINK YOU'RE HELPING. THE JUDGE JUST THREW UP IN MY BRIEFCASE.
ALL RIGHT, I'VE HEARD ENOUGH. IF NO ONE HAS ANYTHING TO ADD, MY FINDING IS FOR THE PARENTS.
PULL THAT PLUG!
CRACK!
SMACK!
IT'S NOW OFFICIAL. THE COURT HAS JUST APPROVED THE ENDING OF GRANDPA'S LIFE!

UM... PLEASE DON'T KILL MY GRANDPA.
PLEASE DON'T KILL HIS GRANDPA!
KID, I WANNA MAKE YOUR STORY INTO A MOVIE FOR TV.
AWESOME.
JUST I THOUGHT — HOW ABOUT WE CHANGE THE GRANDPA CHARACTER TO A DOG?
SURE, WHATEVER. I JUST WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE AND GO TO HOLLYWOOD.
ACTUALLY, WE'LL BE IN TORONTO.
THE FARTHER THE BETTER.
TERRIFIC. THE CZECH PUBLIC IT IS!
YOU'VE BEEN CALLED HERE TO STATE SUPREME COURT TO DECIDE YOUR FATHER'S FATE. WE'VE ALL SEEN THE GRIM PICTURES OF HIM SPLASHED ON THE HEADLINES.
OBJECTION, YOUR HONOR. WE DON'T SEE 'GRIM.' WE SEE uh...VIM AND VIGOR AND A CERTAIN Joie de Vivre.
YEAH, THAT'S LESS DROOL THAN USUAL FOR GRAMPS.
LIFE BEFORE DEATH
KILL GRAMPS
AND THIS IS THE GRANDSON WHO IS FIGHTING TO KEEP HIS GRAMPSY ALIVE.
ALL RIGHT, LET'S HEAR FROM THE PIMPLY YOUNG MAN. LET'S HEAR WHY GRANDPA SHOULD BE KEPT ALIVE.
THIS OUGHT TO BE GOOD.
SPERTS
HOSPITAL
TERRIFIC. I LOST AGAIN.
GET USED TO IT, KID. ANDERSON COOPER REPORTING.
I HAVE WONDERFUL NEWS. HE'S COME OUT OF HIS COMA!
HE HAS?
BUT HE'S NOT OUT OF THE WOODS YET. HE NEEDS TO TAKE THINGS SLOW. HIS BRAIN COULD STILL HEMORRHAGE.
YAHOO!
THAT IS GOOD NEWS.
I THINK THE COMING OUT OF THE COMA THING WAS THE GOOD NEWS, DAD.

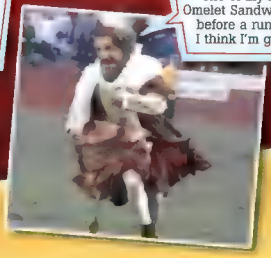
DAD! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
WHAT? THAT I'M ALIVE?
NO, THAT I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE!
WHAT HAPPENED, GRAMPS?
PUT IT THIS WAY, KIDDO, NEVER TRY TO MAKE YOUR OWN PRESCRIPTION SUPPOSITORIES.
SOMEONE WANT TO HELP ME WITH MY SHIRT? I GOT THE MOTHER OF ALL BEDSORES.
HEY, IT LOOKS LIKE Hilary Duff!
MAYBE WE CAN SELL IT ON ebay.
IT'S GOT TO FLAKE OFF EVENTUALLY.
SHE'S ALL YOURS.
SO, YOU WERE GONNA PULL THE PLUG ON ME, HUH?
I'M AFRAID SO. BUT THAT WAS YOUR FINAL WISH!
YOU SAID TO DO IT.
YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO EVER LISTEN TO ME.
WE USUALLY DON'T LISTEN TO YOU.
BUT WHEN YOU TOLD US TO KILL YOU, IT WAS TOO GOOD TO RESIST.
I FOUGHT TIRELESSLY TO KEEP YOU ALIVE, GRANDPA.
THANKS, KID. BUT TRUTHFULLY, YOU NEED YOURSELF A HOBBY.
HOSPITAL
WELL, EITHER WAY, IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, HILARY DUFF BEDSORES AND ALL.
THAT'S RIGHT, DAD.
I'LL TELL YA I FEEL LIKE I HAVE A NEW LEASE ON LIFE. I'M THROUGH TAKING IT SLOW.
REALLY? THAT MIGHT BE THE BEST IDEA I'VE HEARD ALL DAY.
LET'S GET YOU HOME, GRANDPA.
AND THEN... SKYDIVING LESSONS!
SIGN ME UP.
OOO, MY HEAD HURTS.
PERFECT.
Bill + Tony

POLLUTING THE FLAG DEPT.

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT ALLOWS PRODUCT PLACEMENT IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In our crass, vulgar society, product placement is everywhere — there's Dr. Pepper in *Spider-Man*, the Lakers play at the Staples Center and professional boxers even have website names painted on their backs! So what's keeping the federal government from selling out The Pledge of Allegiance? Sure, it goes against everything our country was founded on — but, more importantly, if we list a bunch of products in the pledge, it'd also make us a ton of money! (And isn't that what our country is all about *now*?) Here's what you can expect...

MAD's FLAME-BROILED BURKI



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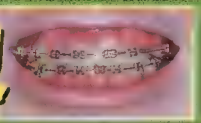
COMMERCIAL OUTTAKES

ARTIST: RICHARD WILLIAMS

IN BLOG WE TRUST DEPT.

Planet TAD!!!!!



[**About Me**]

[**Name**|Tad]
[**Grade**|9]
[**Favorite Name for a First Lady**|Mamie Eisenhower]

[09 March|**05:47pm**]

This saturday is my little sister Sophie's 8th birthday. She's having a Barbie-themed party. That was her third choice. Her first choice was to have a princess-themed party, but then my mom told her that if that was the theme of the party, it wouldn't just be HER being a princess -- she had to let the other girls be princesses, too. Her second choice was a Littlest Pet Shop-themed party, and both my mom and dad told her absolutely not. So it's a Barbie-themed party. I'm going to try to be out of the house as long as I can.

[11 March|**11:23pm**]

[**mood**| jealous]

Well, today was Sophie's party. I went to the mall and managed to miss almost the whole thing -- only one of Sophie's friends was still there when I got home, literally minutes, who was waiting for her mom to pick her up. She'd had too much cake and ice cream and kept vomiting, over and over. "I think I'm gonna throw up!" My mom looked really nervous, because Brooke was sitting on the couch that's not very durable.

Anyway. For two birthdays, my parents got Sophie a guinea pig, which is mostly unfair, because Mike never let the fewer a pet. This is what her guinea pig looks like:

His name is Thunderbolt. Sophie calls him "Mr. Squeakers," but he and I both know his name is Thunderclaw.

[15 March|**08:37pm**]

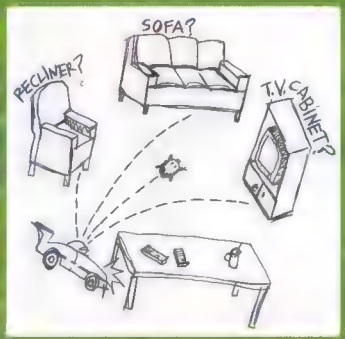
[**mood**| evil]

My friend Chet came over today and we sneaked into Sophie's room when she was out at her [illegible] lesson to play with Thunderclaw. I think he's a really smart guinea pig. Because Chet made a little maze out of [illegible], and Thunderclaw figured out how to get through it in no time. Chet's coming over on Thursday, when Sophie and my parents are all [illegible], and we're going to build a more elaborate course to test Thunderclaw's strength and agility.

[19 March|**07:23pm**]

[**mood**| anxious]

Oh, man... today was a long day. Dad and I were walking Thunderclaw through the obstacle course, and he'd already finished the swimming portion in the bathroom sink, and the ice skating portion inside a carton of chicken we found in the back of the freezer, but then, the big, Wood Nats, whom we had met in the cross-dimensional rift, Dad took a turn too hard and it slammed into the coffee table, Thunderclaw went flying off somewhere in the direction of the sofa, and we couldn't find him, despite summoning a long-lost dog-summoning artifact he could have smelled.



Ultimately, we gave up on finding him. Dad remembered that something sort of like this happened on "Night Gallery," and so we went a solution that worked pretty well there. We ran down to Mom's House to find a replacement for Thunderclaw before Sophie got home. I think this one we found looks a lot like him, especially after we added some spots with a brown magic marker.

Guess we'll have Sophie and my folks getting home.

[20 March|**08:17pm**]

[**mood**| relieved]

Good news! Sophie thinks Thunderclaw II is our original guinea pig, although she did not think and Dad that Mr. Thunderclaw is suddenly "a whole lot better-at".

[22 March|**07:53pm**]

[**mood**| guilty]

Um... Well, today brought good news and bad news. "The good news is, we found Thunderclaw I. The bad news is, he was in the enemy Sentry's

I guess after we put him, he ran into the kitchen and climbed into the cereal box for some food, and then he couldn't climb out again. So this morning Mom was pouring herself some cereal, and suddenly she screamed, because there in the bowl, with his fuzzy paws in the air, was the lifeless body of Thunderclaw I. Sophie started crying and ran to her room, and then a minute later, she came back down to tell us that it couldn't be her guinea pig, because he was out in his cage. And Mom said, "Well, how did a guinea pig that looks just like our guinea pig end up in my cereal?" I tried to suggest that maybe it was a prank — like, Jimmy went grocery and tried cereal guinea pig in every box of Special K.

Mom stared at me for a really long time, and then she asked, "Is there something you want to tell us?"

And I answered honestly. No. There was absolutely nothing I wanted to tell her.

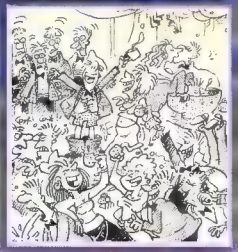
WRITER: TIM CARVELL ARTIST: BRIAN DURNIAK

Sergio Aragonés PRESENTS A MAD LOOK

AT THE PROM

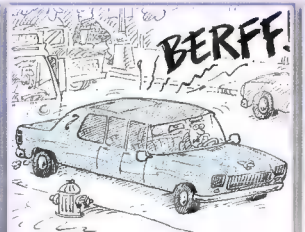
$$
?
PROM
SCHOOL
PROM!
MOTEL

PROM
PHOTO



MOTEL

MOTEL


BERFF!

TAXI
PROM
TONITE

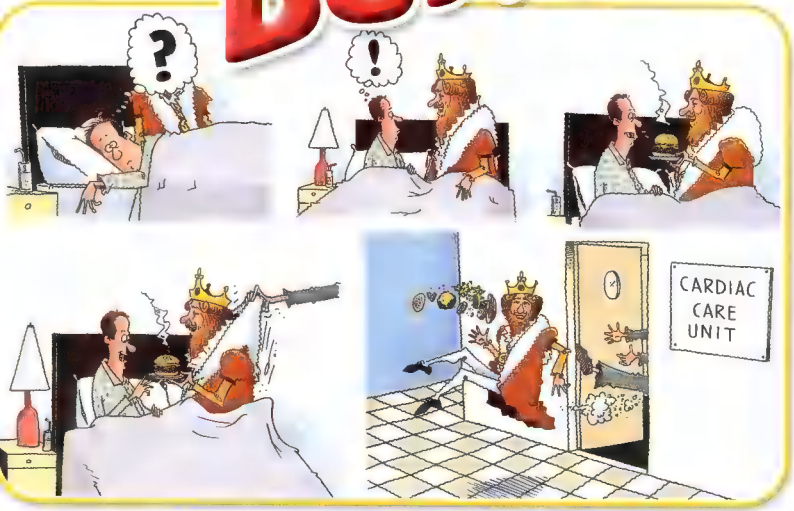
SPY
VS
SPY
TOP SECRET
TOP SECRET
BOOM!
TOP SECRET

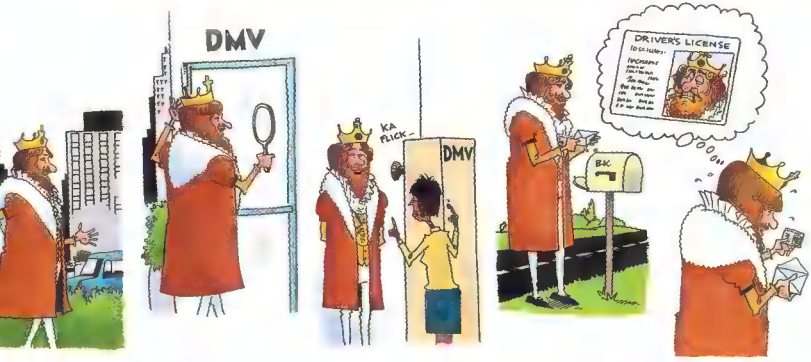
WRITER AND ARTIST: PETER KUPER

ERR TO THE THRONE DEPT.

Right now, the Burger King is unavoidable. He's on TV, he's in print ads, he's on the internet — this is the most attention a creepy, plastic-faced weirdo has gotten since the last Michael Jackson trial. At this rate, we dread opening up the comics page for fear of finding…

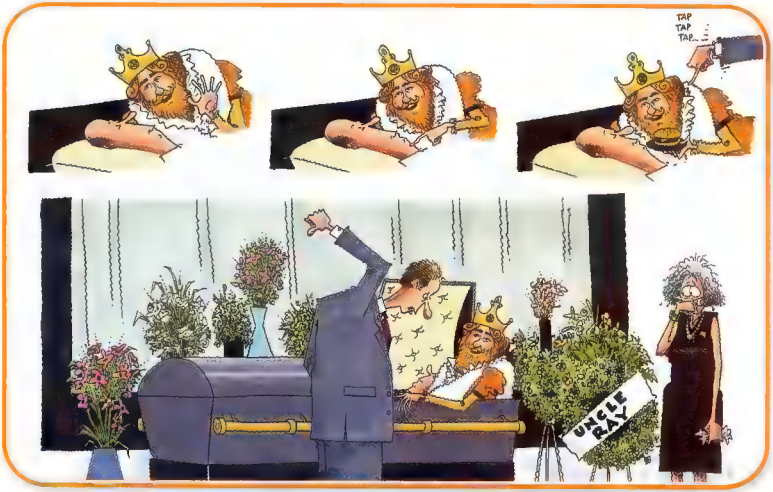
JOHN CALDWELL'S BURGER

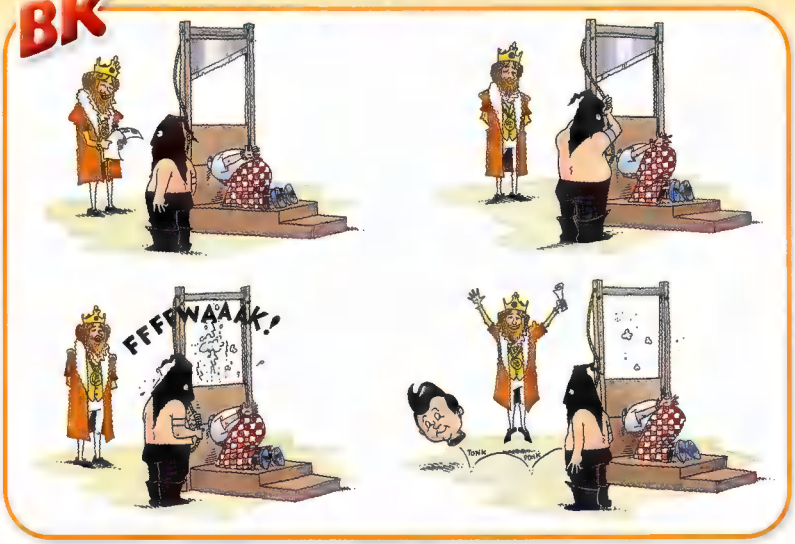




KING FUNNIES

WRITER AND ARTIST:
JOHN CALDWELL

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TONK
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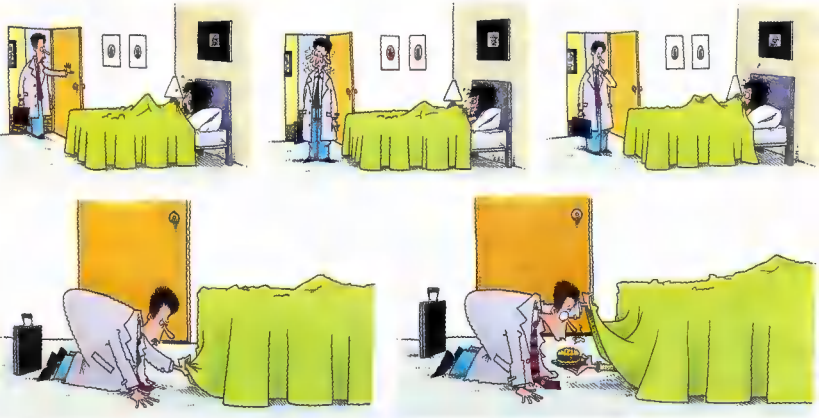


GO FETCH!

THE LATEST STUFF YOU MAY (OR MAY NOT) WANT TO CHASE DOWN!

DVD

GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN'

Paramount Home Entertainment • March 28

The Hype: Determined to leave his criminal days behind, inner-city drug dealer Marcus (50 Cent) pursues the one thing that inspires him — rap music — and in his life-altering journey, the aspiring artist runs into tough times.

The Snipe: *We don't want to ruin the ending for anyone, but 50 doesn't die trying.*

BOOK

THE COLLEGEHUMOR GUIDE TO COLLEGE

THE WRITERS OF COLLEGEHUMOR.COM

Dutton • $18.95 • 288 pages • April

The Hype: This depiction of the college experience includes helpful advice on things like clothing, parents, dating, food, drinking and roommates.

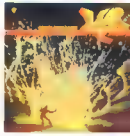
The Snipe: *Who cares about all those other areas — let's hear the advice on how to buy English Lit papers off the Net while in a stupor after pulling an all-nighter at the local bar!*

MUSIC

AT WAR WITH THE MYSTICS

THE FLAMING LIPS

Warner Bros. Records • April 4



The Hype: Although the latest from The Flaming Lips is influenced by frustration with the Bush Administration, the war in Iraq and the fanaticism that surrounds it all, *At War With the Mystics* preaches an "existential acceptance" of the situation.

The Snipe: *Existential acceptance? We're dancing already!*

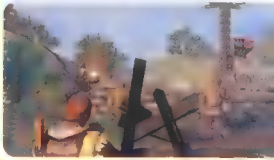
GAME

THE OUTFIT

Xbox 360 • THQ

The Hype: Experience intense WWII combat through war-torn environments as you take on the Nazi War Machine. Choose from three playable squad leader personalities in missions ranging from reconnaissance and rescue to search and destroy. Take on enemie with an explosive arsenal of WWII weapons and vehicles including Machine Guns, Bazookas, MG 42 Stationary Machine Guns, Tanks, Half-Tracks, and armored vehicles.

The Snipe: *The fact that troops are well-equipped and have properly armored vehicles may make the game too unrealistic for som*



OVER 50 YEARS OF MAD's BEST AD SPOOFS — ALL IN ONE BOOK!

224 pages!
Hundreds of parodies!
Full Color Sections!
Interviews with the Usual Gang of Idiots!

You've read the ad about the book!
Now read the book about the ads!
ON SALE NOW!

ROBOT CHICKEN — DVD

SEASON ONE

Warner Home Video • March

The Hype: Old-school stop-motion animation and fast-paced satire are the hallmarks of this eclectic show. Action figures find new life ■ players in frenetic sketch-comedy vignettes that skewer TV, movies, music and celebrities.

The Snipe: *Expect Pamela Anderson to announce her boycott of this DVD because of the show's "cruel and unusual treatment of robot chickens."*

MUSIC

SHOW YOUR BONES
THE YEAH YEAH YEAHS

Interscope Records • March

The Hype: This is the second album from the NYC trio, who went from underground heroes to mainstream darlings, thanks to 2003's *Fever to Tell* (with its haunting single "Maps"). The new album's title, according to frontwoman Karen O., describes what happens when you put your finger in a light socket.

The Snipe: *Good call on the title — the album probably wouldn't sell as well if it was called* Die a Horrible, Painful Death by Electrocution.

GAME

TYCOON CITY: NEW YORK

PC • Atari, Inc.

The Hype: New York City comes alive in *Tycoon City: New York*, the first and only *Tycoon* game that simulates a real-world city and gives players the ability to create and customize over 100 types of major businesses, including running a hot nightclub, overseeing a media conglomerate, ■ opening a lucrative Broadway theater — the choices are endless. As the player progresses, he ■ she is rewarded by unlocking many of the iconic monuments of New York City, including the Statue ■ Liberty and Empire State Building.

The Snipe: *As of press time it was unclear if the iconic monuments of New York City include Trump's hair.*

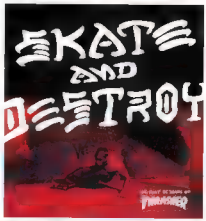
BOOK

SKATE AND DESTROY — 25 YEARS OF THRASHER MAGAZINE

Rizzoli Publications • $37.50 • 288 pages • April

The Hype: This book recounts skateboarding's twists and turns of the last two decades with reprints of the magazine's original columns ("Photograffiti", "Zounds" and "Trash" among others) and unpublished photos, rejected covers, interview outtakes and detailed profiles.

The Snipe: *Looking at photos of gifted skateboarders is always fun — hopefully there are a lot of pictures of the boarders writhing in pain after bashing their nads on rails!*



GAME

STATE OF EMERGENCY 2

PS2 • SouthPeak Interactive

The Hype: Grittier and more realistic than its predecessor and with a highly involving single-player story mode, *State of Emergency 2* takes place four years after the original and has Spanky, MacNeil, Bull and the rest of the Freedom movement once again battling ■ rid the world of the oppressive Corporation, ■ evil corporate dictatorship that ■ intent ■ the global enslavement of the masses.

The Snipe: *What better way to assert your freedom and battle the evil corporate dictatorship than by purchasing yet another video game?*

WHO SAYS BOOKS ARE JUST FOR SMART PEOPLE?

AVAILABLE WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD!

MUSIC

YOU IN REVERSE
BUILT TO SPILL

Warner Bros. Records • April 11

The Hype: *You In Reverse* arrives as the most collaborative record in the band's thirteen year history. This album documents the newest branch of Built To Spill's chaotic, yet elegant evolution.

The Snipe: *Note to Christian Fundamentalists: Feel free to refer to it as the newest branch of their chaotic, yet elegant* intelligent design.

GAME

TIMESHIFT

Xbox, Xbox 360, PC • Atari

The Hype: Gamers assume the role of renowned test pilot Colonel Michael Swift, who is briefly sent back in time to 1911 to plant an experimental probe. Upon his return to the present, a shift has occurred. Swift is now both on the run and on a mission to set time straight once again. The unprecedented technology behind *TimeShift* will allow gamers, for the first time, the ability to slow, stop and reverse the flow of time while remaining completely unaffected.

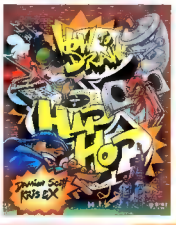
The Snipe: *Slow, stop and reverse the flow of time, eh? Sounds like what Bush is trying to do with his Supreme Court picks.*

BOOK

HOW TO DRAW HIP-HOP
DAMION SCOTT AND KRIS EX

Watson-Guptil • $19.95 • 144 pages • March

The Hype: This book explains drawing basics and construction of the hip-hop look. Learn ways to capture the style and spirit of the B-boy and the B-girl and how to draw hip-hop gear, environments, characters and graffiti.



The Snipe: *Yo yo yo! What better way to capture the "spirit and style" of the hip-hop world than to read a book about it — isn't this how 50 Cent got started?*

BOOK

3000 JOKES, QUIPS & ONE-LINERS
EDITED BY DAVE PHILLIPS

Random House • $7.99 • 288 pages • March

The Hype: There are hundreds of one-liners and longer jokes on subjects including animals, families, food and drink, dating and education included in this book.

The Snipe: *Animals? Families? Dating? Even though these topics are included, we're betting the joke they told in* The Aristocrats *didn't make the cut!*

DVD

JARHEAD

Universal Studios Home Entertainment • March 7

The Hype: Jamie Foxx and Jake Gyllenhaal star in this unconventional war story. During the first Gulf War, Gyllenhaal and his fellow Marines sustain themselves with sardonic humanity and wicked comedy against an enemy they can't see, for a cause they don't fully grasp.

The Snipe: *Jake Gyllenhaal and some other dude out in the wilds of Iraq, relying on each other to get through the hardships? They should just cash in on the fad and rename this movie* Brokeback Mosul!

THE MUST-HAVE!

THE CAMSCAN 3000 SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPE
OBDUCAT

The Hype: The CamScan 3000 features full PC control, large chambers, low vacuum operation and fully integrated precision eucentric stages. In addition to the smaller footprint and Turbo pump vacuum control, the 18" LCD displays, cordless mouse and keyboard make this an attractive and easy instrument to own and operate.

The Snipe: *Christmas can't come soon enough!*

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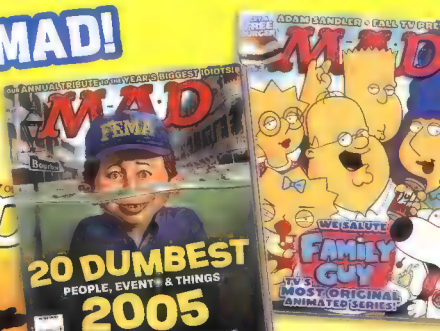

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TEEN TITANS

PIZZA & PLAY SWEEPSTAKES

NO PURCHASE PAYMENT ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER WIN THIS SWEEPSTAKES PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES WINNING.

Entrant need not present to win. Sponsor: Warner Bros. Online, 4000 Warner Blvd., Bldg. 505, Burbank, CA 91522. One grand prize winner will receive the following: (a) one Teen Titans pizza party, featuring an appearance one of the Teen Titans costumed characters, (b) one select game console and Teen Titans video game, (c) $500 cash, one Teen Titans Go! comic book subscription, and (e) one Teen Titans promotional poster (approximate retail value "ARV" for grand prize: $3,775.00). Fifty (50) first prize winners will each receive one Teen Titans video game and one DC Comics Teen Titans prize package (that includes comic books and paperback books) (ARV for each first prize: $100.00). Total ARV prizes $8775.00. Odds winning depend on number eligible entries received. To enter Sweepstakes, you must be 17 years of age or younger and a legal permanent resident of contiguous United States. Employees of Time Warner, Inc., Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., Warner Bros. Online Inc., DC Comics, Parrot Communications, Skycastle Entertainment and each their respective parent companies, affiliates, subsidiaries, divisions, and advertising and promotional agencies and their respective officers, directors and agents and the immediate family members and persons living in the same household of each are not eligible. Void Puerto Rico and where prohibited law. Winners are responsible all federal, state, local and other taxes. Sweepstakes begins at 12:00:01 p.m. PST on February 1, 2006 and ends 11:59:59 p.m. PST on March , 2006. For the complete Official Sweepstakes Rules and for information on how enter, go www.teentitanssweeps.com.

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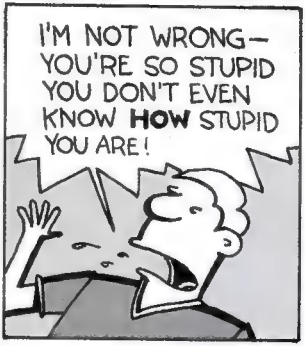
(s08)

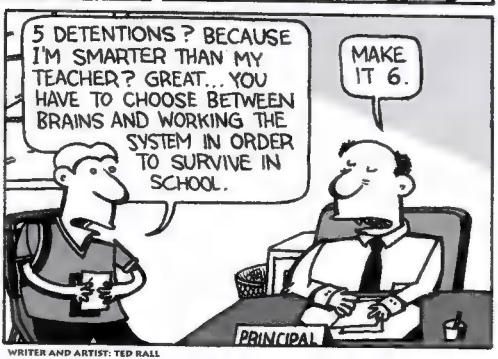
7 PERIODS CLOSER TO DEATH
MENSA MEETING
ALT TUES
EXCEPT 2ND TUES

WHY DID YOU MARK "THAT THAT" WRONG?
YOU WROTE: "LINCOLN SAID THAT THAT ATTACK WOULD BE AVENGED."
THAT'S TWO THATS.

RIGHT. THE FIRST "THAT" IS A CONJUNCTION, INTRODUCING A RELATIVE CLAUSE. THE SECOND "THAT" IS THE FIRST WORD OF THAT CLAUSE. HERE IT IS AN ADJECTIVE MODIFYING "ATTACK", I.E. A PARTICULAR ATTACK.

NICE TRY! BUT STILL WRONG.


I'M NOT WRONG— YOU'RE SO STUPID YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW STUPID YOU ARE!

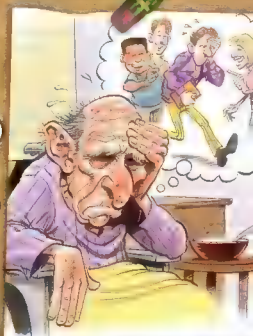

5 DETENTIONS? BECAUSE I'M SMARTER THAN MY TEACHER? GREAT... YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE BETWEEN BRAINS AND WORKING THE SYSTEM IN ORDER TO SURVIVE IN SCHOOL.
MAKE IT 6.
PRINCIPAL

There are over a million, but due to space limitations, we can only present...

35 SCHOLARLY REASONS WHY SCHOOL SUCKS

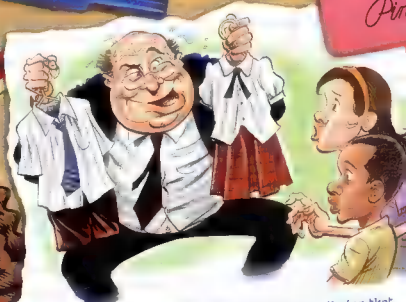
1 After-school showdowns that get hyped all day like a Tyson fight, and end up consisting of two weaklings slapping at each other for four seconds before a security guard breaks it up.

2 Sullen freaks who dye their mohawks neon pink, wear snake-eye contacts and hate everyone's guts for "not getting them."



3 Wearing "the wrong thing" to school, ■ humiliation that only lasts for six hours, but will scar you to the core for the rest of your years.

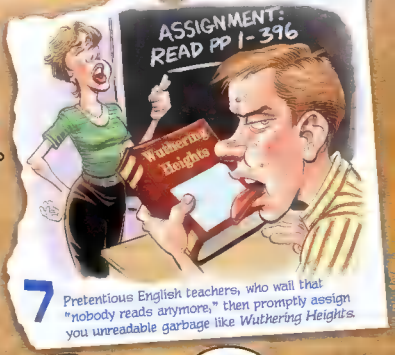
4 Student council, which gives ambitious students input on crucial issues ranging from yearbook color to what type of balloons to buy for the junior prom.



5 Schools that enforce strict dress codes, believing that students learn better when they're dressed like Applebee's waiters or centerfolds from *Hustler's Barely Legal*.

WRITER: JACOB LAMBERT
ARTISTS: PETER BAGGE AND TOM RICHMOND

6 Post-Columbine paranoia that makes you a target of suspicion because you love shoot-em-up video games and heavy metal — just like eighty bajillion other teenagers.

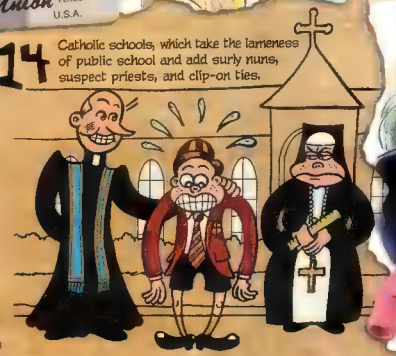


7 Pretentious English teachers, who wail that "nobody reads anymore," then promptly assign you unreadable garbage like *Wuthering Heights*.

10 Interminable Spanish classes, where you'll sacrifice precious weeks of your life to learn valuable phrases like "Yes, I love the donkey."

11 Slave-driving teachers who assign mountains of homework each night, and can't fathom why you always fall asleep in class.

14 Catholic schools, which take the lameness of public school and add surly nuns, suspect priests, and clip-on ties.

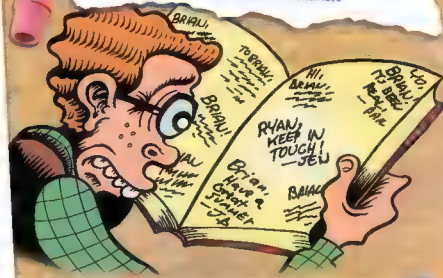


15 History teachers who can memorize microscopic details about the Whiskey Rebellion, but can't get your name right 'til mid-April.

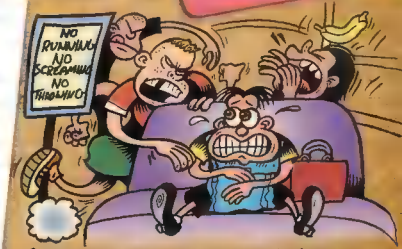
8 Epic snowstorms, which result in pure, school-cancelling bliss — then blindside you with make-up days right when you're itching to start the summer.

9 Having to drag around half a ton of textbooks, which contain a combined four ounces' worth of interesting, memorable information.

12 "Spirit days," which operate on the dubious premise that the only thing separating students from loving school is "Wacky Hat Wednesday."


BRIAN,
BRIAN!
BRIAN!
BRIAN!

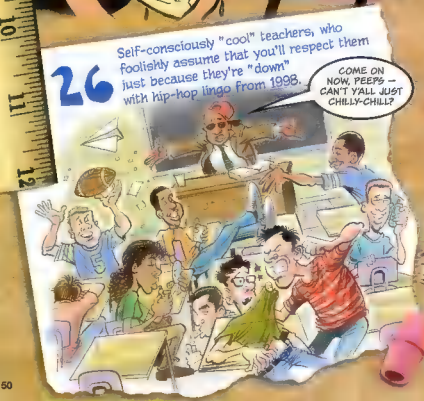
18 Wood shop, which imparts invaluable life skills — like how to slice off your left pinky with a table saw.



19 School buses, an asylum on wheels where rules, regulations, and your backpack all routinely get tossed out the window.

22 Oral reports, which always induce sweating, nausea and hives — even though your teacher and classmates never actually *listen* to a word you're saying.

23 Teachers who stubbornly try to teach through your class' end-of-period paper-shuffling and bag-zipping.



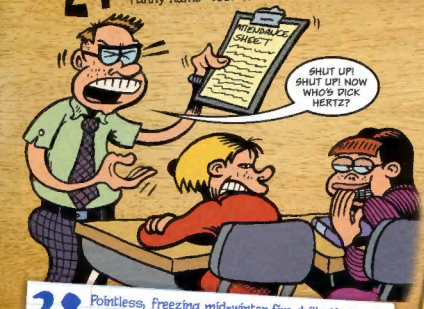
26 Self-consciously "cool" teachers, who foolishly assume that you'll respect them just because they're "down" with hip-hop lingo from 1998.

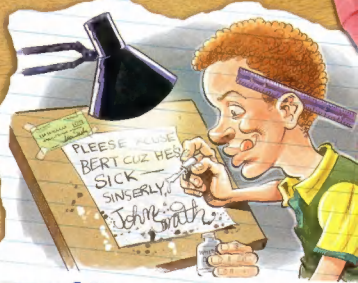
27 Teachers who tell you "just relax and focus" while taking a standardized test, after they've spent months insisting that how you do on it will determine the course and quality of the rest of your existence.

20 "Profound" senior quotes, which, without exception, will seem monumentally trite the instant the yearbooks are handed out.

21 Anti-terrorism lock-down drills — because uzi-wielding madmen are no match for locked classroom doors and organized huddling.

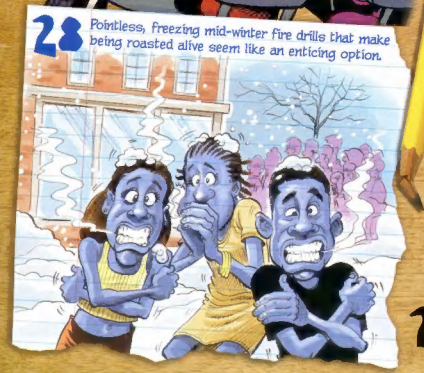
24 Substitute teachers who somehow expect your class to behave, despite failing the crucial "funny name" test on the attendance sheet.

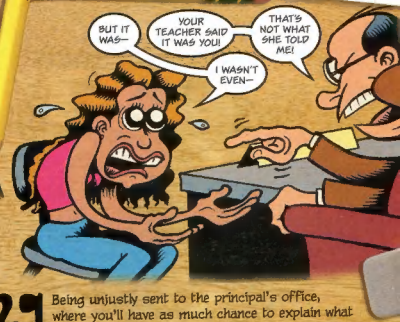




25 Getting busted for forging your parents' signatures, which — for future reference, genius — aren't usually full of pencil erasings, ruler marks and white-out.

28 Pointless, freezing mid-winter fire drills that make being roasted alive seem like an enticing option.



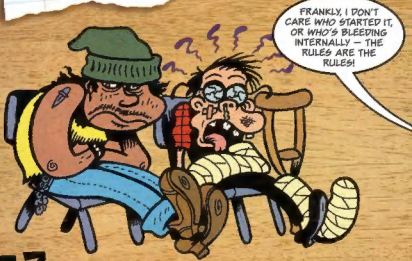


29 Being unjustly sent to the principal's office, where you'll have as much chance to explain what *really* happened as a hogtied Guantanamo detainee.

30 Missing school because of the flu — and then getting buried under so much make-up work that you feel like puking all over again.

31 Scary school bathrooms, where you'll learn the hard way that the bully-administered "wirly" is no far-fetched urban legend.

32 Those dorky monogrammed L.L. Bean backpacks. You might as well just have a "Kick me, I'm an A-hole" sign.



33 Super-strict "zero-tolerance" rules on fighting that get you in just as much trouble as the hulking mongoloid who just cheerfully collapsed your kidney.

34 Visiting military recruiters who think they can con you into going to the one place you can think of that's actually *worse* than high school.

35 Foreign exchange students, who girls inevitably think are "mysterious", just because they wear weird socks and speak in baffling non-sequiturs.

WHAT "LOST" CHARACTER DO MANY FEEL IS NOT GETTING ENOUGH ATTENTION?

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS

MAD FOLD-IN

There's one character who used to get a lot of coverage, but lately seems to be pushed to the back burner. No one knows why this person is not getting the notice they deserve. To find out who this neglected character is, fold page in as shown.

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

QUESTION FOR THOSE IN CHARGE: WHY PURPOSELY HIDE SOMEONE? DO YOU HEIGHTEN DRAMA BY DOING THIS? THE POWERS THAT BE CAN GAIN LASTING PUBLIC ACCLAIM BY CAUSING THE SUDDEN RE-APPEARANCE OF A LOST CHARACTER.

A WRITER AND ARTIST: AL JAFFEE B

WHAT "LOST" CHARACTER DO MANY FEEL IS NOT GETTING ENOUGH ATTENTION?

FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"

OSAMA BIN LADEN

A B